

Message Text

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, UR, US, OEXD

SUBJ: NUCLEAR TEST BAN TECHNICAL TALKS

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. SOVIETS DID NOT PRESENT TECHNICAL DATA ON GEOLOGY OR YIELD CALIBRATION. MOROKHOV BEGAN BY QUOTING STATEMENT OF BREZHNEV ON 14 JUNE WHICH HE TERMED OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE. IN DEPARTURE FROM PREVIOUS PRACTICE SOVIETS OMITTED WORD "WEAPONS" IN MOST REFERENCES TO UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TESTS. MOROKHOV STATED IT WOULD BE UNDERSTOOD THAT SIMULTANEOUS EXPLOSIONS WOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A SINGLE EXPLOSIVE TEST FOR NUMERICAL QUOTA AND THRESHOLD PURPOSES. GALITCH COUNTERED ROMNEY'S STATEMENT OF JUNE 13 ON EFFECT OF DEPTH OF BURIAL ON YIELD DETERMINATION. STOESSEL RECAPITULATED US STATEMENT OF JUNE 13 ON ACCEPTANCE IN PRINCIPLE OF YIELD THRESHOLD CONCEPT. HE DISCUSSED PNE PROBLEM. SYKES ANSWERED SOME EARLIER SOVIET SEISMOLOGICAL QUESTIONS. MCNALLY DISCUSSED PROBLEMS OF NUMERICAL QUOTA AND LOWER THRESHOLD. MOROKHOV IN COMMENTING ON STOESSEL'S PNE STATEMENT SAID THAT REFLECTION ON THE SOVIET SIDE WOULD BE REQUIRED AND HE BELIEVED THAT WE WERE CLOSE TO MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING ON THIS POINT. END SUMMARY.

2. STOESSEL INTRODUCED DAVIES, MAY, RACHLIN, ROWNY, AND WALSH. MOROKHOV WELCOMED THE NEW ARRIVALS AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION THAT PERMEATED THE TALKS SO FAR WOULD BE PRESERVED. HE QUOTED BREZHNEV'S

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14 JUNE SPEECH (MISQUOTED BY AP) THAT /SOVIET SIDE WAS

READY EVEN NOW TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH THE US ON LIMITATION OF UNDERGROUND TESTING OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS RIGHT UP TO COMPLETE CESSATION OF TESTING WITHIN A AGREED TIME SCHEDULE." SAYING THAT THE STATEMENT WAS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE. THE SOLUTION OF THE TASK STATED BY BREZHNEV WAS THE OBJECT OF THE SOVIET PROPOSAL CONCERNING THE LIMITATION OF YIELD, WITH A QUANTITATIVE LIMITATION BETWEEN THE THRESHOLDS, IN ADDITION TO THE PROPOSAL THAT SUCH TESTS BE CONDUCTED ONLY AT TEST SITES WHOSE LOCATIONS WOULD BE ANNOUNCED. HE NOTED CONSTRUCTIVE TRENDS IN TALKS. STOESSEL HAD STATED THAT THE US WOULD BE PREPARED TO AGREE IN PRINCIPLE TO A YIELD THRESHOLD WITH TESTS CONDUCTED ONLY AT ANNOUNCED SITES. A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS WOULD REQUIRE ADDITIONAL EFFORTS, E.G., THE CONSIDERATIONS OF THE US SIDE ON QUALITATIVE LIMITATIONS WITH A LOWER THRESHOLD. MOROKHOV SAID MEANINGFULNESS OF A AGREEMENT WOULD BE SUBSTANTIALLY ENHANCED BY ACCEPTANCE OF THESE LIMITATIONS AND EMPHASIZED GREAT IMPORTANCE OF A MUTUAL AGREEMENT ON THEM. MOROKHOV WANTED TO EMPHASIZE THAT WITH RESPECT TO SIMULTANEOUS EXPLOSIONS THE TWO SIDES WOULD BE IN A POSITION OF COMPLETE EQUALITY. SIMULTANEOUS MULTIPLE EXPLOSIONS WOULD FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE UNDERSTANDING BE CONSIDERED AS A SINGLE EXPLOSION WITHIN THE QUALITATIVE QUOTA AND WOULD BE SUBJECT TO THE YIELD THRESHOLDS ESTABLISHED.

3. GALITCH MADE A STATEMENT ABOUT ROMNEY'S PRESENTATION OF JUNE 13. HE STATED THAT IN PRACTICE VARIATIONS IN DEPTH DO NOT AFFECT MAGNITUDE AS MUCH AS THE THEORETICAL FACTOR OF TWO MIGHT SUGGEST. HE PRESENTED TWO EXAMPLES FROM THE PUBLISHED WORK OF A. DOUGLAS ON THE USE OF "SPIKE" FILTERS FOR SEPARATING THE SEISMIC PHASE PP AND FOR DETERMINING DEPTH. HE STATED THAT NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS ARE SUFFICIENT TO CORRECT MAGNITUDES FOR THE EFFECT OF SOURCE DEPTH.

4. STOESSEL RECAPITULATED US POSITION NOTING THAT THE US IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT IN PRINCIPLE THE CONCEPT OF A NUCLEAR TEST BAN AGREEMENT BASED ON A YIELD THRESHOLD. HE STATED THAT THE YIELD THRESHOLD MUST APPLY TO AOO

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UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS, WITH NO EXCEPTIONS FOR ANY NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS WHICH ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER MIGHT ASSERT WERE FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES.

5. STOESSEL STATED THE US POSITION THAT ANY ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENT MUST BE ADEQUATELY VERIFIABLE. IN THE CASE AT HAND, OUR ACCEPTANCE OF THE YIELD THRESHOLD IS CONTINGENT UPON AN EXCHANGE OF TECHNICAL INFORMATION NEEDED TO PER-

MIT ADEQUATE VERIFICATION. THE US ALSO BELIEVES IT ESSENTIAL THAT TESTING OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS BE RESTRICTED TO SPECIFIC TEST SITES FOR WHICH AGREED DATA REQUIREMENTS HAVE BEEN SATISFIED. PNES OUTSIDE THE TEST SITES COULD BE ALLOWED ONLY IF INFORMATION WERE PROVIDED FOR PROPER VERIFICATION.

6. IN US VIEW NEXT TASK IS TO IDENTIFY SPECIFIC TEST STIES AND TO TABLE SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON YIELDS, EXPOLSIONDEPTH, AND ROCK CHARACTERISTICS NECESSARY FOR PROPER VERIFICATION.

7. SYKES REPLIED TO SOME SOVIET QUESTIONS OF JUNE 11. HE POINTED OUT THAT WHILE DETERMINATION WITH A WELL DISTRIBUTED NETWORK COULD BE MADE THAT EXPLOSIONS HAD OCCURRED WITHIN A TEST SITE, THE ACCURACY WAS USUALLY NOT SUFFICIENT TO DETERMINE WHERE ON THE SITE AND IN WHAT MEDIUM THE EXPLOSION HAD OCCURRED. HE RESPONDED WITH SIGNAL-TO-NOISE RATIOS FOR LONGSHOT AS REQUESTED BY SAFRONOV. HE RESPONDED TO OSIN'S QUESTION ABOUT WHETHER HIS CONCERN IN LOCATING EVENTS WAS ABOUT LACK OF KNOWLEDGE OF SYSTEMATIC ERROR OR LACK OF KNOWLEDGE ABOUT ROCK TYPE BY NOTING THAT HIS PRIMARY CONCERN WAS IN OBTAINING ENOUGH INFORMATION ON ROCK PROPERTIES THAT YIELD MAY BE DETERMINED RELIABLY.

8. MCNALLY DELIVERED STATEMENT ON QUOTA. SINCE THE ACTUAL NUMBER OF TESTS CARRIED OUT COULD EXCEED THE NUMBER STATED IN THE QUOTA, THE QUOTA WOULD NOT IMPOSE A SIGNIFICANT ADDITIONAL LIMITATION ON NUCLEAR TESTS. A LOWER THRESHOLD WOULD HAVE PROBLEMS BEYOND THOSE PREVIOUSLY ADDRESSED BY US SEISMOLOGISTS SINCE SIGNAL-TO-NOISE RATIOS WOULD BE REDUCED AND THE NUMBER OF STATIONS DETECTING THE SIGNALS

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WOULD BE SMALL. THESE FACTORS WOULD LEAD TO INCREASED UNCERTAINTY IN THE MAGNITUDE AND HENCE IN THE YIELD DETERMINATION. IN ADDITION LOCATION UNCERTAINTIES WOULD BE INCREASED.

9. MOROKHOV SAID THE SOVIETS WOULD HAVE A NUMBER OF VIEWS TO EXPRESS AFTER CONSIDERING US STATEMENTS OF TODAY. HE NOTED, IN PARTICULAR, STOESSEL'S STATEMENT ON PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS AND WEAPONS TEST EXPLOSIONS AT TEST SITES. HE BELIEVED THAT THE SIDES ARE CLOSE TO MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING ON THIS POINT, BUT THOUGHT THAT FURTHER EXAMINATION OF THE US PROPOSAL WAS NEEDED.

10. NEXT MEETING SET FOR 10:30 A.M. JUNE 19.
STOESSEL

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NNN

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